

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASMARA 00127 020834Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 AID-20 PC-10

IO-14 SCCT-02 NEA-10 NIC-01 DRC-01 USIE-00 INRE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 EUR-25 /165 W
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O R 020755Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2520

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF

CINCUSNAVEUR

USCINCEUR

DIRNSA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0127

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJECT: MILITARY MUTINY

REF: ASMARA 114

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF ANOTHER RADIO BROADCAST BY
MILITARY REBEL GROUP IN AMHARIX AT ASMARA NIGHT OF MARCH 1,
1974:

QTE: TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE LIGHT OF EHTIOPIA, YOUR MAJESTY;

WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NORTH AND THE POLICE
FORCE HAVE ACCEPTED WITH GREAT JOY THE HIGH SALARY INCREMENT
YOUR MAJESTY HAS GRANTED US, IN REPLY TO OUR APPLICATION OF
FEBRUARY 27, 1974, AND IN COMPLETE DISREGARD TO MISLEADING
COMMENTS BY OTHER AND ALSO AFTER TAKING PROMPT MEASURES AGAINST
THE TEN MINISTERS.

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PAGE 02 ASMARA 00127 020834Z

THE RESIGNATION SUBMITTED BY HIGH OFFICIALS

OR CABINET MINISTERS, IN OPPOSITION TO THE APPLICATION PRESENTED BY THE ARMED FORCES IS HEREBY ACCEPTED. HOWEVER, THE ENTIRE ARMED FORCES AND POLICE FORCE OF ETHIOPIA ARE ANGERED BY THE ATTITUDES OF THESE GREEDY MINISTERS, WHO IN MERE PURSUIT OF THEIR SELFISH INTERESTS HAVE THROWN THE KIND-HEARTED PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA IN MISERY, AND WE ARE AWARE THAT THEY HAVE OPPOSED OUR APPLICATION FOR SIMILAR REASONS.

IN ANY CASE WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOUR MAJESTY THAT THE ARMED FORCES ARE ONLY CONCERNED THAT LEST YOUR MAJESTY BE DISTURBED BY THE ACTIONS OF THESE MINISTERS. OTHERWISE WE ASSURE YOU THAT WE ARE DELIGHTED BY THE IMPROVEMENT MADE TOWARDS OUR LIVING CONDITIONS, AND THAT THERE WILL BE NO SLACKING WHATSOEVER IN OUR EFFORTS TO DEFEND THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF OUR NATION.

WE ALSO EXPRESS OUR DETERMINATION THAT WE ARE AT ALL TIME READY TO SERVE OUR COUNTRY AND EMPEROR TO THE LAST DROP OF OUR BLOOD. LONG LIVE HIM HAILE SELASSIE I. LONG LIVE THE IMPERIAL FAMILY. MAY INDEPENDENT ETHIOPIA LIVE FOREVER.
UNQUOTE

2. SITUATION AT ASMARA AS OF 1030 LOCAL MARCH 2 CONTINUES CALM AND QUIET. HOWEVER, AIRPORT, BANKS, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ARE STILL CONTROLLED BY REBEL FORCES AND CLOSURE ESPECIALLY OF BANKS AND AIRPORT IS BEGINNING TO CAUSE SOME PUBLIC CONCERN. ALSO, WE HEARD ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE AND NAVY OFFICERS WERE PICKED UP AND PLACED UNDER CONFINEMENT YESTERDAY.

3. CHIEF OF STAFF ASSEFA AYENE AND OTHER ADDIS VIPS WHO ARRIVED HERE FEB. 27 ARE STILL BEING HELD AT PALACE ACCORDING TO RELIABLE INFORMANT THIS MORNING.
RABIDA

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